



“Parlamento Hubenil” installs the officers for 2007-2008

On Friday afternoon, May 25, the new President and officers of Aruba’s Youth Parliament were installed in the official Hall of Parliament Oranjestad. Marisol Krojendijk, Councilor to the “Parlamento Hubenil” of Aruba, performed the solemn ceremony, placing the pin of Aruba’s flag on eight young people that will make up the board of officers for the coming year.

Additionally attending, from Curacao, were Sheila Albertoe, President, and Roxanne Maita of Foundation Bos di Hubentud (Voice of Youth,) which funds and guides the Youth Parliament of both Curacao and Aruba. Several members of Aruba’s official Parliament were present for the swearing-in ceremony, including its president, Mervyn Wyatt-Ras.

Current Youth Parliament President Jarrus Barry acted as Master of Ceremonies, and addressed the gathering. Jarrus was elected to a second term as President. Judite Brigita addressed those present representing the Minister of Education, Marisol Lopez-Tromp. She commended the youth that participate in the Youth Parliament, and applauded the purpose of the body, to build character and educate future leaders in the practice of government and community responsibility.

The youth that participate in the parliament are between the ages of fourteen and twenty-three, and are no longer eligible after reaching twenty-four. They petition the councilors for membership, representing either their school or a youth organization. The eight-man board of officers is then elected annually from the thirty-member body of the Parliament.

Other officers sworn in that day were Vice President Angelino Vrolijk, Secretary Aldrich Kelly, Treasurer Cindy Marin, General Advisor Jean-Dihno Trappenberg, and Commissioners Ashan Tromp, Janice Maduro and Ysa Fele. Janice Maduro presented to the General Assembly the Agenda for 2007-2008, and Ashan Tromp introduced the “Topic of the Year,” which will be the focus of many of the projects of the Youth Parliament. This year the topic is “Child Abuse,” and the parliament members are working with the Curacao parliamentarians on a theatrical production on the subject, which will be staged on both islands in November.

THE NEWS offers congratulations to the new board, and commends them on their community activism and involvement.